

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ADP-00

SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-14 USIE-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00

INRE-00 RSR-01 /134 W

----- 095495

O R 190226 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6894

INFO USUN NEW YORK 311

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 1491

E. O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PN

SUBJ: SC MEETING IN PANAMA

FROM US DEL SCALI

1. IN SECOND CONVERSATION WITH TACK AT 7:30 PM WITH BOYD PRESENT, BOYD APPEALED TO ME TO ACCEPT REVISED VERSION OF PANAMA- PERU DRAFT RESOLUTION. HE ASKED I CHECK URGENTLY WITH WASHINGTON FOR ITS VIEW ON SUGGESTED CHANGES EVEN THOUGH I TOLD HIM REVISIONS WOULD NOT ALTER THE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTION U S HAS: NAMELY THAT INCLUDING ANY ALLEGED AGREED POINTS WHICH WOULD PUT UN INTO A BILATERAL NEGOTIATION. HE URGED I CHECK DESPITE MY GLOOMY VIEW OF ACCEPTABILITY OF HIS PROPOSED CHANGES.

2. OPERATIVE PARA 2 WOULD BE CHANGED AS FOLLOWS BY PANAMANIAN. PARA WOULD BEGIN WITH WORDS " TAKING NOTE" INSTEAD OF " TAKES NOTE". WORDS " ABROGATION OF THE ISTHMIAN CANAL CONVENTION OF THE YEAR 193 AND ITS AMENDMENTS" WOULD BE DELETED. THE WORDS " THE CONCLUSION OF A COMPLETELY NEW TREATY" WOULD BE CHANGED TO READ: " THE CONCLUSION OF A JUST AND FAIR NEW TREATY...", AND THE WORDS " LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE ASSUMPTION
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OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA OF THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY
FR THE EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE INTER- OCEANIC WATERWAY "
WOULD BE ELIMINATED.

3. BOYD SAID THAT HE WANTED US TO BE ABLE TO VOTE FOR
RESOLUTION INSTEAD OF VETOING. AT END OF CONVERSATION
HE ASKED I EXPLORE WITH DEPT. WHETHER I COULD AT
LEAST ABSTAIN. I TOLD HIM MAXIMUM WE COULD ACCEPT
WAS SIMPLE RESOLUTION NOTING U S AND PANAMA HAD
EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS AND THE SC URGED BOTH PARTIES TO
RETURN TO NEGOTIATIONS. PERHAPS, I SAID, I CAN
CONCEIVABLE VOTE FOR THAT, BUT NOT ANY RESOLUTION WHICH
DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SPELLED OUT PRINCIPLES OR
ALLEGED AGREEMENTS WITHIN A UN FRAMEWORK.

4. TACK INTERVENED TO SAY IF THERE WAS A VETO HE
DID NOT KNOW HOW THE PEOPLE WOULD REACT. HE FURTHER
ADDED IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS.
I REPLIED THAT ANY BREAK OFF OF TALKS WOULD HARM PANAMA
AS MUCH AS U. S. FURTHER, I NOTED, A VETO WOULD PREVENT
SC SESSIONS FROM ENDING ON HARMONIOUS, UNANIMOUS NOTE
WHICH HAS BEEN MY CONSTANT OBJECTIVE AS PRELUDE TO
SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. TACK
REITERATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT " THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT
UNDERSTAND" A VETO. I ASKED THAT HE RELAY TO GENERAL
TORRIJOS OUR VIEW THAT WE HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT FROM THE
START IN TELLING THEM THAT WE COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY
RESOLUTION WHICH SPELLED OUT PRINCIPLES AND ALLEGED
AGREEMENTS IN A RESOLUTION. ISSUE WAS MORE IMPORTANT
THAN JUST PANAMA, I TOLD HIM, AND WAS FUNDAMENTAL
TO OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD WHETHER THE UN COULD MEDDLE
IN ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS. BOYD SAID UN SEC GEN WALDHEIM
HAD VIEWED HIS DRAFT AND THOUGHT IT REASONABLE.
WALDHEIM WAS WILLING TO PLAY BACK STAGE ROLE BUT I
SAID WE DID NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN THIS CASE.

5. AT ONE POINT, I TOLD BOYD THAT DESPITE HIS CLAIM
HE HAS SEVEN CO- SPONSORS FOR HIS RESOLUTION, I THOUGHT
HE WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY LINING UP VOTES. HE VOLUNTEERED
THAT ABSENTATIONS WOULD BE UK, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA
AND POSSIBLE AUSTRIA. I TOLD HIM I DID NOT NECESSARILY
AGREE WITH HIS FORECAST, BUT THAT I WOULD NOT COUNT
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NOSES WITH HIM.

6. COMMENT: TACK AND BOYD APPARENTLY ARE FEELING
PRESSURE FROM SOME QUARTERS TO TRY TO COME UP WITH
RESOLUTION U S COULD SUPPORT. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER
THIS IS HIS LAST EFFORT, IF HE WIL COURT VOTES IF HIS
SUGGESTIONS TURNED DOWN, BUT HE OFFERED TO CHAT MORE OVER
DRINKS AT RECEPTION TACK GIVING TONIGHT AT HOTEL.
WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT REACTION. SAYRE

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